

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00726 161535Z

72-L

ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

RSC-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /085 W

----- 044519

R 161428Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9779

INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

DIA WASHDC

S E C R E T CONAKRY 0726

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : MCAP UR

SUBJECT : SOVIET AIRCRAFT SUPPORT CAPABILITIES IN CONAKRY

REF: CINCLANT 151439Z MAY 74

1. OBSERVATION OF MILITARY SECTION OF CONAKRY AIRPORT BY EMBOFF
AT 1630 HOURS MAY 15 AND 0815 HOURS MAY 16 REVEALED FOLLOWING:

A. TWO TU-95 BEAR DELTA AIRCRAFT, WITH NO CREW PRESENT.

B. NO AN-12 AIRCRAFT WERE AT AIRPORT.

C. AT SIDE OF RUNWAY, NEXT TO TU-95'S, THERE WERE A CIRCULAR MILITARY TENT APPROX 30 FEET IN DIAMETER, THREE FUEL TRUCKS, OTHER NON-MILITARY VEHICLES, SEVERAL CANVAS-COVERED WOODEN CRATES APPROXIMATELY 6X6 FEET.

D. AT 1650 HOURS MAY 15 A GUINEAN MILITARY BUS CONTAINING 20-30 APPARENTLY-SOVIET MEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES DROVE FROM CAMP ALPHA YAYA (WELL-GUARDED GUINEAN ARMY CAMP ONE MILE FROM AIRPORT WHICH WOULD BE LOGICAL BILLETING AREA FOR A GROUND SUPPORT CREW) TO THE AREA OF THE TU-95 AIRCRAFT. (IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO OBSERVE THEM ALL THE WAY TO THE AIRCRAFT, BUT THERE IS NOTHING ELSE IN THAT AREA.)

2. A CANADIAN CIVILIAN PILOT WHO REGULARLY FLIES FROM ADJOINING AIRSTRIP TOLD EMBOFF ON MAY 15 THAT THE TWO AN-12'S THAT USUALLY ACCOMPANY THE TU-95'S HAD DEPARTED CONAKRY IN LATE APRIL, BUT HAD LEFT "GROUND SUPPORT CREW" FOR THE TU-95'S

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BEHIND. CANADIAN SAID CREW NOT BILLETED AT AIRPORT, ARRIVES

BY BUS FOR WORK. BELIEVE THIS WAS GROUP OBSERVED PER PARA
1.D ABOVE.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS
WHICH WE SHOULD SEEK IN ORDER TO EVALUATE EXTENT OF SUPPORT
CAPABILITIES. PHOTOGRAPHS NOT POSSIBLE.
TODMAN

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NNN

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